

Supply—Citizenship and Immigration

200 domestics, was successful, could the minister indicate whether his department and the Department of Labour will now give consideration to considerably broadening this particular immigration program in order to relieve the continuing shortage of domestic help in Canada, and to relieve the problem of over-population in our commonwealth neighbour the British West Indies?

Mr. Pickersgill: It would perhaps be more appropriate for my colleague the Minister of Labour, who has the responsibility for this program inside Canada, to attempt to give a judgment on it than it would be for me. I may say that my report is that most of the employers have been quite well satisfied with these young women. Of course, it is rather early to form any really satisfactory view because this immigration has only been going on for two years. These young women all know that unless they remain in domestic service for the first year, they will not remain in Canada; that is the basis of the agreement. I have heard that there has been some tendency for these people, after the year is up, to leave domestic employment for other kinds of employment which apparently young women consider more attractive.

In so far as the more general question the hon. gentleman asked is concerned, I doubt if I should go into it on the supplementary estimates. It relates to broad questions of policy. I would say this. I have felt that, since we all hope the Carribean confederation is going to be established quite soon, it would be more appropriate to discuss that policy when there was one authority established in the West Indies instead of a great number.

Mr. Hodgson: Can the minister tell the committee just how far they have gone in the screening of these Hungarian immigrants? Is there any chance that some of them might be communists?

Mr. Pickersgill: I am afraid there is a chance some of them are communists. Indeed, I would be very surprised if one or two of them were not. After all, there are something over 15,000 Hungarians refugees here now. They are mostly young people. They were brought up and educated, as the hon. member for York-Humber said a moment ago, in a country which is not a communist country but has a communist government. It would be quite surprising if one or two communists amongst that number of refugees had not got through and got here. If they had not got here, they would probably have gone to some other country amongst our allies or remained in Austria. Once they got out of Hungary, wherever they were they would be almost equally dangerous to the cause of the free world.

[Mr. Nickle.]

We do not believe, from such experience as we have had, that there is any considerable number. These refugees were, if I may use a vulgar expression, fed to the teeth with communism. It was for this reason they had this rebellion and that is why most of them got out when the revolution was crushed. I do think there is quite a problem for us in the re-education, especially of the younger people—who have never known anything but communist rule—

Mr. Herridge: All they have known is fascism and communism.

Mr. Pickersgill: As the hon. gentleman has said, all they have known has been fascism and communism, except for a couple of years after the war when they had a relatively decent government. This is true of the younger people, but it is not quite true of some of the older ones. It is very difficult, apparently, to be brought up in that kind of atmosphere without setting a lot of notions that need to be corrected. I am sure all hon. members, and I do hope most of our fellow citizens, will feel we must be patient with these people and help them because I think most of them are going to turn out to be really good Canadians. However, many of them are going to have a hard time adjusting themselves to their new life.

Item agreed to.

Indian affairs branch—

554. Welfare of Indians—operation and maintenance—further amount required, \$200,000.

Mr. Campbell: I had intended, Mr. Chairman, to make some extended remarks when the minister's main estimates were before the house, but it appears now as if we will not have an opportunity to discuss those estimates in this session.

Mr. Harris: But you could leave your speech until the fall and make it on the main estimates then.

Mr. Herridge: Then you will do your best to try and prevent him from returning to give it.

Mr. Campbell: So far as that is concerned, that would not influence me very much. I feel this problem is pressing and I see no reason why I should wait until fall to discuss it. This problem has grown to such proportions that it is up to all of us who are interested in the problem to get something done about it as rapidly as possible. I think members will agree, before I finish, that the problem does need a great deal of attention.

Last year, I spoke on this matter and said that some progress had been achieved during the previous two years. I gave the former